PENDEEN PILOT GIG CLUB

NEWSLETTER

"THE GIG-GLE"

Issue 81 - June 2013

Editor: ***Jill Hoather*** **Race Reports:** ***Emma Gage***



Please e-mail comments or editorial to Jill at jillhoather@googlemail.com

There was a time, when returning to school, following a half term holiday, we would have been asked to write a 'composition' (Essay to most of us) about what we had done during the holidays. After Spring Bank Holiday break mine would have been entitled "A Perfect Day at the Beach" or "Rowing how it used to be". I'm sure today's Junior Rowers have a far more sophisticated education pattern in order to satisfy 'OFSTED', but however you look at it, they certainly added the perfect moment to a cracking days racing, in beautiful weather, at Daymer Bay. This is not the first time Rock Gig Club have run their well-organised event in such lovely weather, they are always so welcoming, creating a relaxed atmosphere to settle in some of our new rowers, and giving us the opportunity to show how much our Juniors have improved, when they finished first and enjoyed their moment of glory with a well done 'oars up'. Congratulations to Debbie and her crew.

Membership 2013:

We have had some guest rowers joining us on the water at the end of May, and I for one have a few more to bring down later in the year. If you meet visitors showing an interest don't forget to let them know that rowing is a sport that anyone can try. For a £2 session they will have something different to go home and tell their friends about. There is a clip board with the kit in the Lights' Shed, with a declaration sheet for guests to sign, to cover our insurance terms. So if you have a friend or visitors to Cornwall, who would like to come and try an odd session, bring them along.

All Membership forms are now being kept in a plastic wallet in the life jacket bag in the shed, so that should any medical information or emergency numbers be needed, they are easily available. *Jill Hoather*

Junior Rowing: **Fridays 4.15 prepare boats 4.30 pm rowing 5.30pm finish**

Junior Rowing has started it's summer growth spurt with us regularly getting 2 boats of youngsters on the water. Last year's young rowers are a perfect example of how to conduct yourself at rowing, and with their recent win at Rock, of how good you can become in one year with hard work and then win races. Our newer, and mostly younger, rowers are improving every week and it makes the time and effort we adults put in feel very worthwhile. Keep up the good work.

A disappointment for some of our more able juniors was a reminder from the CPGA that we may only row juniors in races one level above their own. This is a shame as the ones we felt ready to support the Adult B boats were doing very well and enjoying it, but H & S comes first.

Sunday 25th August there is an Under 14's Championship Day at Hayle. The Club has never before entered this Championship, so let's work on giving ourselves the best opportunity for a good result.

Many of you will remember us running a Junior Fun Day last year. Having checked out with other clubs about dates, it looks like we will be trying to run this event on Saturday September 7th, so please try to be available to row or help.

Fundraising:

The discussions on fundraising at the General Meeting at the beginning of June were very positive. Liz Sullivan reported that we had been granted £2,000 from the West Cornwall Youth Trust to purchase 2 rowing machines. These will be housed at Bolitho where we will have access to them and the rest of their gym equipment out of school hours. This will give us access to excellent training facilities during the winter months, making the club stronger and more attractive, *(in more ways than one maybe!!)* and also give us the chance to set up some competitive indoor rowing which could help fundraising. Liz is also hosting a Community Event for Youth at the 'Treneere Together' Partnership Office, which should help support our youth connections. There is currently a six week Bolitho training programme running, which will access, already approved, funds from Sportivate, once completed. Anna Murphy and Shirley Pitts are (as I type), completing an application to the Co-op for a £2,000 equipment grant which we hope to qualify for and, having completed our gap between applications, we are now able to apply for another £10,000 from Sport England. All great news but we still need to continue with our own fundraising activities, both to support the grants and to make sure we have enough money together by the time the new Gig is completed.

Sun 5th May:	***A cheque has been received from the Rally Committee for £150, to add to the money kindly raised by the 'carbooters'. Thank you to all.***
31st May to 2nd June:	***Weekend Beer Festival at Trewellard Pub - The Trewellard Gig Ale sold especially for the club made £102.30. It was a pleasure helping to make this money and assist with the other lovely beers. Thanks to the Trewellard and also to all who came drinking.***
Sat 20th July:	***Lafrowda Day, St Just***
Tues 6th August:	***Morvah Pasty Day***
Mon 26th August:	***Fish Festival Newlyn (fund raising for those not Rowing)***
Fri 13th December:	***Newlyn Harbour Lights switch on.***

Plus another 'Pig Race' evening, a Casino Evening at the Trewellard Inn, Car Boot to be held in Trewellard Inn car park and a Junior Race Event

The collections of clothes and household linens, in any condition, even your old painting rags, mobile phones which do not need to be working and ink cartridges are all doing well.. A recent collection from Shirley's garage is hoped to be close to £200 in value. Thanks to everyone, especially those 'house movers', who may not have had time to row, but have certainly been making money from their rubbish!! Shirley Pitts organises the collection from her garage, so she is the best person to give your items to, but I can always pass them on if necessary.

Calendars: The end of June is close upon us. Charlotte has had a number of entries for the competition, but I'm sure there are still some of us who haven't had time to hunt down our best shots. This weekend will give the last chance to take pictures for the competition , so bring your cameras or phones, get clicking, whatever your age, and send them in.

Photo Competition for the Calendar Pictures. *As you know we are producing a 2014 calendar to raise funds for the club. Now is the chance to channel your inner 'David Baileys' and submit your best gig related photographs. The deadline for submitting photos is the end of June. Can I please ask that the pictures are submitted as JPEG's and that they are originals, unfortunately copies do not reproduce very well. Photoshopped and enhanced pictures welcome – be creative!* Please send your entries directly to Charlotte. Don't forget to add your name and maybe a brief description. These will be judged by an independent judge and the best used for the calendar, which will be produced earlier than previous calendars , to encourage higher sales. *Good Luck*

Club Kit: All enquiries and orders for kit should be directed to Shirley Rees at srees171@googlemail.com or 07824446543.

New Gig:

The new gig is now well under way and we will be organising a visit to see her progress and take pictures for the history books *(and the calendar?)* at the beginning of July. We have now paid £7,000 towards her build and we still have £3,000 to find by September. Something we have talked about previously has been the sale of parts of the gig to members and friends. Phil has created an excellent Sales Sheet with a complete Gig design picture, showing all the parts available for purchase and their prices. What a great idea, that we all have a little bit of investment in our new boat and care about it as our own from day one. The master copy is currently at the Trewellard, showing what has already been funded, another will be available in the lights shed. There are items available from £250 to £5 so everyone who wants to should be able to afford their own little bit of the new boat.

Club Development:

There are many things over the years that have helped build Pendeen Gig Club and with the continued demands for better organisation, safety and various registrations, there has been a lot of work done by the present committee over the last couple of years, not least the work that Jan has been co-ordinating for gaining our 'Club Mark'. This is a quality accreditation and takes a lot of development work and evidencing. Jan has been very tied up this year with her house move, but was happy to announce at the meeting that she is back in the 'real world', still like us all a busy one, and is planning on completing the final parts of this project soon. Sue Nankervis, having created our great website, has now added more links in the menu section, all of which evidence how much work is going on in the background. They are links to:- West Cornwall Youth Trust and Whole Again Communities, both of which should support some younger contacts for us. She will also be adding a link to Bolitho Sports connections once permission is obtained. Though we may not have seen some of the ladies rowing as much this year they have certainly been busy behind the scenes. The guys, however are going from strength to strength on the pontoons and still adding their support to the Club's health. Michael managed to come 5th out of 200 people on the rowing machine competition, run by Rock Rowing Club at Royal Cornwall show, giving us the idea that we may be able to use something similar as a fundraiser once we get our new machines. Mike has also been in touch with his friend Kenny, who is currently away at sea, but has promised us another RNLI standard safety talk on his return (see below). Unfortunately, though Mike is already covering two jobs professionally, meaning even more travelling than normal as well as the work, his father has had an accident, and Mike is also needing to assist on the family farm. We wish his dad well and if you don't see quite as much of Mike as usual you will know why. I'm sure Phil will continue to support Mike, as he has done so well, over the last few months.

Safety Talk:

Last year Kenny Downing, a serving RNLI crew member was kind enough to come and give us a very useful and interesting safety talk. When next home from sea, he has kindly offered to do a similar talk. This will be held at the Newlyn Centre (room booking still being confirmed) on Tuesday 16th July at 6pm. As this is a rowing night, we are hoping that as many adults as possible will be able to attend and we would like the juniors to join us as safety at sea is relevant to us all. Juniors are welcome to bring along their parents to join us on this evening. Tea and cakes will be available.

Race Reports: Emma Gage

PENDEEN YOUNGSTERS TRIUMPH AT ROCK

Avarack made the long journey to the Rock Gig Club regatta at Daymer Bay, on Sunday 2nd June. The weather and sea conditions were glorious, enabling a great day of racing, with 29 gigs present from as far away as Bristol. The early start to racing made alarm clocks a necessity but it all became well worth the effort.

The Ladies' Veteran's was the first race and before we had even finished launching, saw one of those priceless moments that are never caught by a camera, as Geoff fell into the water as he was getting into the boat, no harm done though and he survived to keep us on target, even though a little wet. The race itself saw our crew recover from a disappointing start when the flag was dropped before all the gigs had reached the line, rowing strongly to finish 13th out of a large field. The men's veteran's crew also suffered the same problems as the starter obviously did not worry too much about a fair start, but they recovered well to finish 9th.

The Ladies' and Men's B races were held in two heats due to the number of gigs present. However, for some unknown reason there were no times taken, so if you won the second heat you were

assumed to have finished behind the last in the first heat. Apparently the basis was results on Scillies, but there was much grumbling about this among clubs and the results board did not reflect how the crews would have performed if all had raced together. With only the time of one race to recover, the crew that had rowed in the ladies' veteran's, with one exception the *very very* much younger Jess, rowed in the B's. Having by now sussed out the starting system, they had an excellent race, passing several gigs to finish 4th in their heat. Thanks to Dan for his coxing.
The men's B crew, including new rowers John and Dixie, also had a good race with an exciting finish to come 8th in their heat.
Highlight of the day was the Under 14's race with a strong field of 9 gigs. The course was back from the last mark (quite long compared to many events). Despite a dodgy start, our youngsters Joe, Jess, Josh, Stephen, Courtney and Sam, with coxing by Debs, started to pull ahead leaving much of the pack far behind, holding off Fowey and finishing in a fantastic first place. It is not that often that we see Avarack with oars raised in triumph and it was a wonderful sight, well deserved, and one we could easily see a lot more off with our talented crew.
The men's A was, in contrast, rowed in one large heat with the our crew rowing strongly to finish 14th. Overall the club was placed in 12th position for the event out of the 29 gigs present. This was a very positive result against some much bigger clubs; however, it will always be remembered as the event where our juniors won their first race. Well done to all of them.

MIXED and VETS, Saltash 15th and 16th June
Initially we had entered 3 crews in this weekend championship - a mixed crew on the Saturday and a ladies' and a men's crew in the vets' races on the Sunday. Unfortunately Anna was unable to take part at the last minute due to family illness and, in the absence of a replacement, the ladies had to pull out , leaving the men to "hold the fort" on Sunday. Saturday's weather was reasonable, if a little breezy, and the crew of Dan, Tristan, Sue N, Mike, Sue W and Charlotte, plus Geoff as cox, set off at some unearthly hour to get to Saltash in time for the 9am start. We battled well against good opposition (the one crew we probably would have beaten had dropped out!) but ended up going through to the "Plate" rounds where we fared pretty well, reaching the semi-final stage.

Sunday's weather was forecast to take a turn for the worst - heavy rain but thankfully not much wind. However, we were lucky in that each time our crew (Phil, Geoff, David, Neil, Dixie and Kevin, ably coxed by Dan) took to the water the rain seemed to ease off. We were up against pretty stiff opposition - it's all about the luck of the draw in this competition - and like Saturday we ended up in the "Plate" rounds, making it to the final round. Mind you, there was an anxious moment when the rudder yoke on our boat (Falmouth's Idas) just fell apart while we were warming up for the race and we had to quickly return to the pontoons for a replacement! Never a dull moment with Pendeen!
We had a great last race anyway, coming out of the final turn "neck and neck" with 2 other boats, fought all the way back, and just missed out on coming second - indeed the winner was only a length or two in front.

Many thanks to all those who got up so early in the morning, and braved the weather conditions, to represent the Club at this big competition and, in particular, to our newer rowers - Charlotte, Dixie and "virgin" racer Kevin. *Geoff*

Events :

As discussed at the General Meeting, **ALL** race dates for the next 2 months will be published in the Giggle. It will then be your responsibility to let your Captain know when you are and aren't available to row at these. With this information and confirmation of a tower the Captains will decide which events we will attend.

Future Event Dates:

Tuesday 16th July	RNLI safety talk	Newlyn Centre	6pm (rowing afterwards if required)

Possible Race Dates: Please confirm availability so we can choose the best ones to attend.

Saturday 29th June	Mounts Bay	Coxes Meeting 11.30	Start 12 noon	
Sunday 30th June	St Ives	Coxes Meeting 11.30	Start 12 noon	
Saturday 6th July	Truro	Coxes meeting 1pm	for 1.30	Possible
Saturday 13th July	Paignton or Goran			Probably not
Saturday 20th July	Rame			Possible
Saturday 3rd August	Coverack			Probable

Saturday 10th August	Cadgwith		Possible
Saturday 17th August	Porthleven		Possible
Saturday 24th August	Fowey		Invite only
Sunday 25th August	Under 14's Championships	Hayle	Definite
Monday 26th August	Fish Festival	One mixed crew	

Rowing Times:

All the kit is now back in the 'Newlyn Lights Shed' for the summer, making start and finish work much easier. Please remember to store all kit safely, both on the pontoon and at the shed.

REGULAR TIMES:

Junior Rowing; Friday 4.15 for 4.30 start, finishing around 5.30 for collection.

Tuesday and Thursday Evening: 5.45pm start, for rowing as soon as there is enough crew available.

Sunday Rowing; Social, mixed rowing from 10am

Contacts:

The club has its own e-mail address: pendeengigclub@hotmail.co.uk or contact Geoff Hoather on 01736 786006 or 07837277891 or GEOFFGOATHERD@aol.com

For more news and views see Pendeen Pilot Gig Club on Facebook

Our new website **www.pendeengigclub.co.uk** is now up and running online. *Check us out for info*

The CPGA now has a revamped website at www.cpga.co.uk

Any contributions for or comments on the Gig-gle can also be sent to jillhoather@googlemail.com

Welfare Officers: David Clough 01736364384 or 07518858432, email dpclough@msn.com, and Jan Barton 07964912139 or e-mail battybarton@btinternet.com

Meetings:

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 2nd July 2013 after rowing at the Lugger

Next General Meeting: Tuesday 10th September 2013 Venue to be confirmed but probably the Radjel